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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/026,416	12/21/2001	John Papsdorf	1646.00002	2470

7590 04/09/2003

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

CARPENTER, SCOTT A

[REDACTED] ART UNIT

[REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

3612

DATE MAILED: 04/09/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/026,416	PAPSDORF, JOHN
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Scott A. Carpenter	3612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2/5/03.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 3, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Perlot (U.S. Patent 5,092,650) in view of Blair (U.S. Patent 4,127,299).

Regarding claim 1, Perlot discloses a recreational vehicle (RV) having a body with a roof, sides, and floor which define an interior, front and rear wheels, and a door between the front and rear wheels, but fails to disclose a door of the shape recited. Blair discloses a small door (22) adjacent the floor of a recreational vehicle which covers a passageway for loading and unloading items from the interior of the RV. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the vehicle of Perlot to include the loading door (22) of Blair so as to increase loading/unloading efficiency.

Regarding claim 3, the passageway of the door (22) taught by Blair is generally rectangular in shape.

Regarding claim 11, the vehicle disclosed by Perlot is a motor home.

3. Claims 2, 4-10, 12, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Perlot (U.S. Patent 5,092,650) in view of Blair (U.S. Patent 4,127,299) applied to the claims above, and in further view of Antos et al. (U.S. Patent 5,746,466).

Regarding claims 2 and 4, Perlot and Blair teach the combination discussed above, but fail to explicitly teach that the doors be hinged or that the doors reside in the passageway. Antos

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et al. (Antos hereafter) disclose a small rectangular door on an RV which is rotatably mounted to the RV body and is secured within a passageway between the interior and exterior of the vehicle body. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to further modify the combination of Perlot and Blair to include the structural features of the door of Antos as a mechanical expedient.

Regarding claim 5, Antos discloses a door frame (32) around the perimeter of the passageway.

Regarding claims 6 and 13, the specific dimensions of the door of Antos are not disclosed, but it appears to be about two feet by one foot. Regardless, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the door to whatever dimensions were desired.

Regarding claim 7, the doors of Blair and Antos are flush with the vehicle body.

Regarding claim 8, Antos teaches the use of a latch mechanism.

Regarding claim 9, Antos teaches the use of a latch and striker.

Regarding claim 10, the latch of Antos is disposed within the vehicle door.

Regarding claim 12, none of the combined references teaches a square door, however it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the door to be square if desired as an aesthetic design choice.

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott A. Carpenter whose telephone number is 703-308-6290. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Thurs. 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, D. Glenn Dayoan can be reached on 703-308-3102. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-3297 for regular communications and 703-308-3297 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1113.

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March 31, 2003

3/31/03

-41107

EXAMINER
PATENT

D. GLENN DAYOAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600